

□ 1903

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, due to a runway accident at LaGuardia Airport in New York, I was unavoidably detained.

On rollcall No. 375 had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall No. 376 had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I regret missing floor votes on Monday, July 22, 2013. Had I registered my vote, I would have voted: "yea" on rollcall 375, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as amended, H.R. 1542—WMD Intelligence and Information Sharing Act of 2013; "yea" on rollcall 376, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as amended, H. Con. Res. 44—Authorizing the use of the Capitol Ground for the District of Columbia Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 1213

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 1213.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

NO LABELS AND PROBLEM SOLVERS

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, last week a group of more than 80 Members of the House and Senate unveiled a package of legislative reforms to make government more efficient, effective, and less wasteful.

The bipartisan group is called "No Labels"—encompassing Members of Congress who have committed to meet on a regular basis to find common ground among political parties on a range of policy issues.

I reach across the aisle on every single piece of legislation I introduce. It's the only way to actually get something done in this town. But this group is looking to create a larger dialogue among Members of Congress from different parties with different philosophies. It's a constructive group that is looking to advance solutions on a non-partisan basis.

The package of nine bills they introduced last week might not solve all the Nation's problems, but they do demonstrate how common ground can be achieved, how Democrats and Republicans can work together as problem-solvers.

The more Members that we can bring together to work across the aisle on a consistent basis helps us to build trust and ultimately a legislative branch that functions a whole lot better.

SOCIAL SECURITY AND CHAINED CPI

(Mr. SWALWELL of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I have spoken to my constituents who are concerned about the viability of Social Security. They want big ideas and long-term solutions. Instead, there are solutions right now and proposals to switch to a chained CPI formula to calculate cost-of-living adjustments for Social Security beneficiaries to save money. This would reduce benefits and only extend Social Security solvency for 2 years.

I do not support the use of chained CPI. It reduces the amount of Social Security checks, but not the rising cost of health care, water bills, or other fixed costs that seniors continue to face.

The importance of Social Security is evident in the lives of millions of beneficiaries, including my own father and grandmother. It's an earned benefit that these hardworking Americans have paid into their entire lives. That's why I have signed on to House Concurrent Resolution 34 to express my clear opposition to this misguided reduction in benefits.

But I don't stand here just to knock down ideas. Instead of reducing benefits through chained CPI, I believe we should raise the cap on payroll contributions. Currently, Social Security taxes are only collected on the first \$113,000 of earnings. By raising the cap, we can extend Social Security solvency without cutting benefits.

I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing chained CPI.

KEEP COAL AS AN ENERGY RESOURCE

(Mrs. CAPITO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, this week the House will consider two pieces of legislation that are vitally important to protect the jobs of thousands of West Virginians.

I rise as a proud cosponsor of the Coal Residuals Reuse and Management Act and the Energy Consumers Relief Act.

The Coal Residuals Reuse and Management Act will stop the EPA from implementing new coal ash regulations by empowering the States to create a permit program that meets their individual needs, while still providing environmental safeguards.

EPA's proposed regulation on coal ash would cost thousands of jobs and

would increase electric bills for families and small businesses. It would also hinder the reuse of coal residuals, guaranteeing that more coal ash would end up in landfills instead of reused as concrete or cement.

The House will also consider the Energy Consumers Relief Act. This legislation requires that anytime EPA proposes a regulation that would cost more than \$1 billion, that it is to be reviewed by other agencies, including the Department of Energy.

If the Secretary of Energy determines that a rule would have adverse effects on the economy, such as unemployment, wages, consumer prices, business and manufacturing activity, then the results must be made available to the public.

Thousands of workers have been laid off. We've got to get back to creating jobs in this country, and these two bills will do that.

SAFE CLIMATE CAUCUS

(Mr. TONKO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, although the House continues to ignore climate change, others are busy assessing the problems and options to address the new situations that this Nation and our world will face in a warmer world. The United States Global Change Research Program's draft assessment suggests that we have work to do if we are to maintain a reliable, modern transportation system.

The committee's draft states that sea level rise, storm surge, extreme weather events, heat waves, and other manifestations of climate change are reducing the reliability and the capacity of our transportation system in many ways. The good news is the negative impacts can be reduced to rerouting, mode change, and other adaptive actions if we invest in our transportation network.

The States should not have to do this exercise alone. The Federal Government should lead the effort to deal and resolve climate change. We can improve our infrastructure, reduce the cost of natural disasters, and ensure that our transportation network serves our Nation's needs well into the future, all while creating jobs.

Let's stop denying reality. Let's address climate change. Let's move our Nation and the world forward.

RECOGNIZING MAPLE GROVE BEYOND THE YELLOW RIBBON

(Mr. PAULSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to commend and to congratulate the city of Maple Grove for becoming Minnesota's newest Beyond the Yellow Ribbon community. The combined efforts of Maple Grove, the people and